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Environmental
Protection

Air Resources Board

John D. Dunlap, III, Chairman

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Pete Wilson
Governor

Manufacturers' Advisory Correspondence

MAC #98-03

July 15, 1998

TO: ALL PASSENGER CAR, LIGHT-DUTY TRUCK, MEDIUM-DUTY
VEHICLE, HEAVY-DUTY ENGINE, HEAVY-DUTY VEHICLE, AND
MOTORCYCLE MANUFACTURERS
ALL INTERESTED PARTIES

This letter transmits a Manufacturers Advisory Correspondence which outlines the Air Resources Board's reporting requirements for experimental permits issued for fleets of vehicles and engines.

If you have any questions regarding reporting requirements, please contact the Experimental Permit Report Coordinator at (626) 575-6917. Any questions regarding filing an initial permit application or the status of an issued permit should be directed to Ms. Rose Castro, Manager, Aftermarket Parts Section at (626) 575-6848.

Sincerely,

R. B. Summerfield, Chief
Mobile Source Operations Division

Attachment

State of California
Air Resources Board

Subject: Reporting Requirements for Vehicles and Engines with
Experimental Permits

Applicability: Experimental vehicles and engines.

Reference: Section 43014 of the Health and Safety Code.

Background:

Section 43014 of the Health and Safety Code grants the Air Resources Board (ARB) the authority to issue permits for testing of experimental motor vehicle emission control systems installed in used vehicles, or for testing experimental or prototype vehicles and engines which appear to have very low emission characteristics. These permits are usually good for one year, and may be renewed at the request of the applicant.

The ARB has issued experimental permits since 1972. In 1983, the ARB published Manufacturers Advisory Correspondence (MAC) 83-01 which outlines the policy for granting fleet experimental permits. Under this policy, vehicle or engine manufacturers need only submit one application for all their experimental vehicles and engines for an entire year. A fleet permit is then issued specifying the number of vehicles or engines involved and the duration of testing. These permits do not show the vehicle identification numbers or makes and models. Instead, applicants are required to keep records of the experimental fleet vehicles which are to be made available for ARB inspections at reasonable times. To simplify ARB's overall enforcement activity, MAC 83-01 also specified that applicants must provide to the ARB at the start of each experimental test program a list of vehicles involved, types of fuel used, and the intended use of the vehicle. However, this requirement has not been consistently met by applicants.

ARB Policy

To ensure that reporting requirements are uniformly applied, the ARB will require all fleet experimental permit applicants to submit an experimental

program report upon completion of experimental testing. The report must be submitted on or before the expiration of the existing experimental permit. The report must contain the name and address of each fleet or user operating the vehicle(s) or engine(s) covered by the experimental permit, and must also provide in a separate table for each fleet or user the following information for each vehicle or engine in the fleet:

- a. Model year
- b. Vehicle or engine make and model
- c. Vehicle identification or engine serial number
- d. Engine displacement (in liters)
- e. Engine type
- f. Type of fuel(s) used
- g. Intended experimental use of the vehicle
- h. Time period the vehicle or engine was in California: from mm/dd/yy to mm/dd/yy
- i. Disposition of the vehicle or engine at the expiration of the experimental testing period (e.g. shipped out of California, carried over to next year's vehicle fleet, etc.)

Renewal or issuance of a new annual fleet permit will not be granted until the applicant complies with the above reporting requirements.

Applicants should submit the information in an electronic columnar format (fields a-i as indicated above), using Microsoft Excel version 5.0 or another compatible spreadsheet.

Address reports to:

John Kowalski, Chief
Certification Branch
California Air Resources Board
9528 Telstar Avenue
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